

REMARKS:

Claims 1-2, 11-12 and 16 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 3-4, 9-10, 13-15, and 17-19 are amended; marked up versions of the amended claims are attached hereto pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii). New claims 20-24 are added. Claims 3-10, 13-15 and 17-24 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 9, 11-13 and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Gouko (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,507). Claims 1-2, 11-12 and 16 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 3, 9, 13 and 17 are amended. Applicant respectfully traverses the Office's rejection as to the amended claims.

The present invention is directed to a multi-monitor display device. Claim 3 is as follows:

A multi-monitor, comprising:
a first display device having a display screen; and
a second display device having a display screen smaller than the first display device; and
a supporting mechanism which is mountable on an outside portion of the first display device, and supports the second display device rotatably about a first axis and a second axis intersecting the first axis,
wherein the first axis is parallel with a horizontal direction of the display screen of the first display device, and the second axis is parallel with a vertical direction of the display screen of the first display device, and
wherein the supporting mechanism includes:
a first support member which supports the second display device rotatably about the first and second axes; and
a second support member which is *mountable on an outside portion of the first display device*, and supports the first support member slidably in parallel with either one of the vertical and horizontal directions of the display screen of the first display device.

(Emphasis added.) On the other hand, Gouko is directed to:

In a personal computer which displays a plurality of images and which includes a body of the personal computer, a primary display panel provided on a front side of the body, and a secondary display panel provided adjacently to the primary display panel, the secondary display panel is slid to be contained into the primary display panel or outer sides of the primary display panel by the use of rack and pinion

mechanism. The secondary display panel is rotatable towards both upper or lower side and left or right side with respect to the primary display panel by a hinge mechanism.

The Office contends that Gouko teaches a first support member 9 (a hinge mechanism 9) which supports the second display device 3 rotatably about the first and the second axes 9a and 9b; and a second support member 6 and 7 (a pinion 6 and a rack 7) *mountable on an outside portion 2b of the first display device 2*, and supports the first support member 9 slidably in parallel with the horizontal direction of the display screen 2a of the first display device 2 (citing Gouko Figures 2 and 4; and col. 3, lines 39-46; and col. 4, lines 15-26). As Gouko states at col. 3, lines 33-46:

In the first embodiment, the sub panels 3, 4 are slid to be contained into a space formed in the back side of the main panel 2 or on the back side of the main panel 2. *Namely, the main panel 2 has a space between a display surface 2a and a back surface 2b thereof.* As will be understood from FIG. 2, *the sub panels 3 or 4 is slid to be contained into the space* from right or left hand side of FIG. 2, respectively. As shown in FIG. 2, a pinion 6 is provided on a central portion of the space while each rack 7 is integrally provided in one end of each sub panel 3 or 4. Each sub panel 3 or 4 is slid into the space to be contained therein by the combination of each rack 7 and the pinion 6, as depicted by a straight line having arrows in both ends thereof.

(Emphasis added.) Gouko teaches sliding the sub panels into a space for storage purposes. In Gouko, rack 7 is mounted on an *inside* portion of display device 2, since rack 7 is positioned *between* the display (front) surface 2a and the back surface 2b.

Gouko does not teach or suggest a second support member which is mountable on an *outside* portion of the first display device and supports the first support member slidably, as required by claim 3. Since Gouko does not teach or suggest each claim limitation, it cannot render the claimed invention anticipated. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 3, as amended, is respectfully requested. Claim 9 depends upon claim 3 and is also patentable for at least the same reasons. Claims 13 and 17-18 also contain the limitation of a second support

member which is mountable on an *outside* portion of the first display device and supports the first support member slidably. Claims 13 and 17-18 are the patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 3. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 9, 13, 17-18 as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 4, 6 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Gouko (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,507) in view of Crossland et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,720,781). Claims 4 as been amended. Applicant respectfully traverses the Office's rejection as to the amended claims.

Crossland is directed to:

The data processing terminal comprises a smectic liquid crystal flat panel display module which is supported by a support module. The terminal also includes a keyboard. The display module may be removed from the support module and has its own central processor, memory, control means and power source to enable it to operate independently of the support module, which contains its own central processor, memory, control means, and interface means and is mains operated. The display module may incorporate a touch sensitive overlay to permit the manipulation of the contents of the display. The support unit may incorporate a telephone interface unit.

As noted above, nothing in Gouko teaches or suggests a second support member which is mountable on an outside portion of the first display device and supports the first support member slidably, as required by claims 4, 6 and 14. Likewise, Crossland does not teach or suggest this limitation. Since the combination suggested by the Office does not teach or suggest every limitation, it cannot render the claimed invention obvious. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 4, 6 and 14, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 10, 15 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Gouko (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,507) in view of Fowler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,306,612). Claims 10, 15 and 19 have been amended. Applicant respectfully traverses the Office's rejection as to the amended claims.

Fowler is directed to:

An interface apparatus includes a base element, an interface element, and an attachment mechanism for attaching the interface element to the base element. The attachment mechanism is pivotable within a plurality of degrees of freedom. The interface element is an extensible member which is, in two of its embodiments, pivotally mounted so as to be rotatably adjustable about a pivot point with respect to a primary member. The primary member may be a base member or another display member. These members may be computer keyboards or displays, such as liquid crystal displays (LCDs), audio speakers, or the like such as are used in desk top or lap top computers and terminals.

As noted above, nothing in Gouko teaches or suggests a second support member which is mountable on an outside portion of the first display device and supports the first support member slidably, as required by claims 10, 15 and 19. Fowler does not teach or suggest this limitation. Since the combination suggested by the Office does not teach or suggest every limitation, it cannot render the claimed invention obvious. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 10, 15 and 19, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Gouko (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,507) in view of Crossland et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,720,781) as applied to claims 1, 4, 6 above and further in view of Fowler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,302,612). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as to the amended claims.

As noted above, nothing in Gouko, Crossland or Fowler teaches or suggests a second support member which is mountable on an outside portion of the first display device and supports the first support member slidably, as required by claims 7 and 8. Since the combination suggested by the Office does not teach or suggest every limitation, it cannot render the claimed invention obvious. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 7 and 8, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Gouko (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,507) in view of Crossland et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,720,781) as applied to claims 1, 4, above and further in view of Register (U.S. Patent No.

5,590,021). Applicant respectfully traverses the Office's rejection as to the amended claims.

Register is directed to:

An apparatus and method for a secondary display system for a computer are disclosed. A secondary display system of the present invention includes a flat panel display configured such that the display is conveniently located both during and between use thereof. The system comprises a liquid crystal display module (LCDM), a corresponding display controller connected to the LCDM via an appropriate interface, and a mounting device connected to the LCDM for mounting and positioning the LCDM in close proximity to the monitor of a computer. In a preferred embodiment, the mounting device comprises a rectangular plate, which is horizontally disposed between a chassis and a monitor of the computer, and the positioning means comprises a single axis hinge, which is connected to a front corner of the plate such that the hinge rotates on a vertical axis. One edge of the LCDM is attached to the hinge so that the LCDM may be rotated on a vertical axis. During use, the LCDM may be rotated such that its display screen is coplanar with the display screen of the monitor. Between uses, the LCDM may be rotated such that its display screen is substantially orthogonal to the display screen of the monitor.

As noted above, nothing in Gouko or Crossland teaches or suggests a second support member which is mountable on an outside portion of the first display device and supports the first support member slidably, as required by claim 5. Register does not teach or suggest this limitation. Since the combination suggested by the Office does not teach or suggest every limitation, it cannot render the claimed invention obvious. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 5, as amended, is respectfully requested.

New Claims 20-24 are added by way of this amendment. Support for claims 20-24 is found, for example, in the original claims, in Figures 1-7, Figures 13-22, specification page 10, ¶2, and specification page 17 ¶ 1-2. No new matter is added by way of this amendment. The amendment adds the limitation that the second support member is adapted to be mountable on at least two surfaces of the outside

portion of the mother monitor. None of the cited prior art teaches or suggests this limitation. Allowance of claims 20-24 is respectfully requested.

The art made of record but not relied upon by the Examiner has been considered. However, it is respectfully submitted that this art neither describes nor suggests the presently claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6710 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: February 25, 2002

By: _____


Lawrence J. McClure

Registration No. 44,228

Attorney for Applicant(s)

500 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1900
Los Angeles, California 90071
Phone: 213-337-6700
Fax: 213-337-6701

Version with markings to show changes made:

3. (Amended) A multi-monitor [according to claim 2,] comprising:
a first display device having a display screen;
a second display device having a display screen smaller than the first display
device; and

a supporting mechanism which is mountable on an outside portion of the first
display device, and supports the second display device rotatably about a first axis
and a second axis intersecting the first axis,

wherein the first axis is parallel with a horizontal direction of the display
screen of the first display device, and the second axis is parallel with a vertical
direction of the display screen of the first display device, and

wherein the supporting mechanism includes:

a first support member which supports the second display device rotatably
about the first and second axes; and

a second support member which is mountable on an outside portion of the
first display device, and supports the first support member slidably in parallel with
either one of the vertical and horizontal directions of the display screen of the first
display device.

4. (Amended) A multi-monitor according to claim 3 [1], wherein the
second display device is driven in accordance with the same operation system as the
first display device.

9. (Amended) A multi-monitor according to claim 3 [1], further
comprising one or more display devices each having a display screen smaller than
that of the first display device.

10. (Amended) A multi-monitor according to claim 3 [1], wherein the
supporting mechanism is detachably mountable on the first display device.

13. (Amended) An auxiliary monitor [according to claim 12] comprising:
a main body having a display screen; and

a supporting mechanism adapted to be mountable an outside portion of a mother monitor having a display screen larger than that of the main body, and supports the main body rotatably about a first axis and a second axis intersecting the first axis;

wherein the first axis is parallel with a horizontal direction of the display screen of the mother monitor, and the second axis is parallel with a vertical direction of the display screen of the mother monitor, and

wherein the supporting mechanism includes:

a first support member which supports the main body rotatably about the first and second axes; and

a second support member which is mountable on an outside portion of the mother monitor, and supports the first support member slidably in parallel with either one of the vertical and horizontal directions of the display screen of the mother monitor.

14. (Amended) An auxiliary monitor according to claim 13 [11], wherein the main body is driven in accordance with the same operation system as the mother monitor.

15. (Amended) An auxiliary monitor according to claim 13 [11], wherein the supporting mechanism is detachably mountable on the mother monitor.

17. (Amended) A monitor supporter [according to claim 16,] comprising:
a first support member which supports an auxiliary display device rotatably about a first axis and a second axis intersecting the first axis; and

a second support member adapted to be mountable on an outside portion of a mother display device having a larger display screen than that of the auxiliary display device, and supports the first support member,

wherein the first support member is slidable on the second support member.

18. (Amended) A monitor supporter according to claim 17 [16], wherein the first axis is parallel with a horizontal direction of the display screen of the display

screen of the mother display device, and the second axis is parallel with a vertical direction of the display screen of the mother display device.

19. (Amended) A monitor supporter according to claim 17 [16], wherein the second support member is detachably mountable on the mother display device.